(c) The Government of India has advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to substantially involve the Gram Panchayats in the supervision and monitoring of the Public Distribution System, especially at the Fair Price Shop level, as a measure of social audit. It is expected that the involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System including Antyodaya Anna Yojana at the grass roots level will make the System transparent and accountable and help check diversion of PDS commodities to a great extent.

Production of sugar

4143. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange spent on account of import of sugar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total production of sugar during the last three years and what is the expected production of this year; and

(c) the total consumption of sugar during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The import of sugar is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL) since March, 1994 and as such, various private parties have imported sugar as per their own commercial judgement. The details relating to foreign exchange spent on import of sugar are not available with the Government. As per DGCI&S, Kolkata, the import of sugar during the three financial years and its value in Rs./crores are as under :—

Financial Year	Quantity (In MTs)	CIF Value Rs./crores
1998-99	900471	1111.22
1999-2000	1181183	1110.79
2000-2001	30612(P)	31.36(P)

(P) = Provisional

(b) The total production of sugar during the last three years and the estimated sugar production during the current sugar year are as under :—

Sugar Year (Oct.-Sept.)	*Sugar Production (in lakh tonnes)*
1997-98	128.44
1998-99	154.52
1999-2000	181.93
2000-2001(Estimated)	181.00

(c) The total consumption of sugar during the last three sugar years is as under :—

Sugar Year (Oct.-Sept.)	*Consumption of Sugar* (in lakh tonnes)*
1997-98	139.78
1998-99	141.35
1999-2000	155.08

*This excludes the sugar imported by the private parties under OGL.

Advisory committees

†4144. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Advisory Committees working under his Ministry as on 31st July, 2001;

(b) the details of the tenure and working jurisdiction of the aforesaid Advisory Committees; and

(c) by when the Committees which have not yet been constituted will be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.